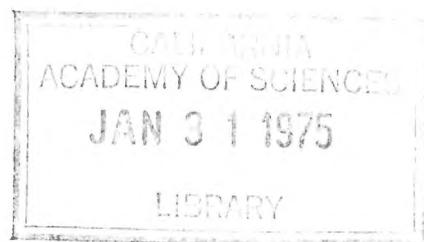


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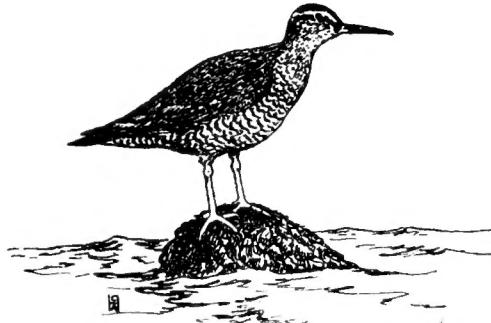
Volume 57

Berkeley, Calif.

February 1975

Number 2

Bay Area Birds



CHRISTMAS COUNT

Once again Oakland produced one of the most impressive Christmas Bird Counts in the nation. Following the trend of much of Northern California we were down 10 species from last year's phenomenal 188—the final count was 178 species. Yet the 195 observers plus 62 feeder-watchers, yielding a total of 257 participants, insure that once again the Oakland

Count circle was the most thoroughly covered circle in the world. We set an alltime record by breaking national high count records for eleven species (last year we broke ten): 7 of the records broke our own high counts set last year (Great Horned Owl, Scrub Jay, Chestnut-backed Chickadee, Plain Titmouse, Bushtit, Bewick's Wren, and Brown Towhee); 1 broke an old 1964 Oakland-held record (Black-bellied Plover); 2 more were taken away from Pt. Reyes (Cooper's Hawk and Fox Sparrow); and the last was snatched from Charleston, South Carolina (Rufous-sided Towhee). We also came close to national records in Saw-whet Owl, Wrentit, Winter Wren, and Hutton's Vireo, and should lead the nation in these and several other species (last year we led in 20). Despite the fact that ducks and gulls were down sharply, we surpassed last year's count in 110 species and added three birds to the Oakland Count list: Black-and-white Warbler, Northern (Bullock's) Oriole, and Swamp Sparrow. All of this can be attributed to the thoroughness of the coverage, the generally good weather, the aggregation of a large percentage of the top Northern California birders, and the fine organization of chief co-compiler Steve

Bailey; co-compilers Don Roberson, Van Remsen, and John Luther; and feeder coordinator Inez Troxell—who nearly doubled the number of feeder-watchers on any Oakland count. Our 178 total appears to be in the top 5 for California and we shouldn't slip too far from the great position we held last year: fifth in the nation. All of the participants have good reason to be proud of a Count extremely well done.

RESULTS: Common Loon 44, Arctic Loon 20, Red-throated Loon 46, Red-necked Grebe 1 (George Peyton & Ron LeValley boat party), Horned Grebe 656, Eared Grebe 77, Western Grebe 294, Pied-billed Grebe 137, Double-crested Cormorant 507, Brand't Cormorant 35, Pelagic Cormorant 13, Great Blue Heron 63, Green Heron 1 (Don Roberson party in the s. San Leandro Bay area), Great Egret 89, Snowy Egret 141, Black-crowned Night Heron 117, American Bittern 2 (1 by Steve Bailey party on the Oakland Airport; 1 by Dick Johnson party on the Alameda Golf Course), Canada Goose 2229, Snow Goose 6 (Betty Olds, Judy Olson, & Bob O'Brien in the Jim Clayton party in the Big Springs area), Mallard 909, Gadwall 8 (4 by Nick Story & John Smail party at San Pablo-Briones Res.; 2 by Bill Parsons party on Lake Merritt; 2 by Phil Gordon party in Arrowhead Marsh), Pintail 4545, Green-winged Teal 72, Cinnamon Teal 9 (Gordon & Howard Brownson party), **European Wigeon 1** (Bailey party), American Wigeon 1831, Northern Shoveler 1163, Wood Duck 8, Redhead 20 (Laurie Binford party on the Berkeley shore), Ring-necked Duck 16 (14 by Lynn Farrar on Lafayette Res.; 2 by Brian McCaffrey party at Upper San Leandro Res.), Canvasback 3868, Greater Scaup 1907, Lesser Scaup 5715, scaup (sp.) 6702, Common Goldeneye 1134, Barrow's Goldeneye **24** (20 by Peyton party; 3 by Parsons party, 1 by Rich DeCoster party at Utah Fill), Bufflehead 1507, **Oldsquaw 1** (LeValley & Peyton party), White-winged Scoter 726, Surf Scoter 20,975, Black Scoter 3 (LeValley & Peyton party), Ruddy Duck 7931, Hooded Merganser 3 (2 by Dick Johnson party, 1 by Kimball Garrett party at Jewel Lake), Common Merganser 30 (Story party), Red-breasted Merganser 207, duck (sp.) 186, Turkey Vulture 170, White-tailed Kite **11** (9 by Bailey party, 1 by DeCoster party, 1 by Ned Boyajian party at St. Mary's College), Sharp-shinned Hawk 35, Cooper's Hawk 31 (new national record), Red-tailed Hawk 237, Red-shouldered Hawk 1 (Story & Smail party), Golden Eagle 2 (1a, 1i by 7 parties), **Bald Eagle 1** (Trix Machlis, Bud & Jo Henning in Moraga Valley), Marsh Hawk 16, **Peregrine Falcon 1** (Dick Dean party on the Albany shore), American Kestrel 136, California Quail 895, Ring-necked Pheasant 31, Virginia Rail 3, **Common Gallinule 2** (1 by Mary Louise Rosegay party in the Emeryville-Treasure Is. area; 1 by Binford party), American Coot 3495, Semipalmated Plover 133, Snowy Plover 9 (very low), Killdeer 673, Black-bellied Plover **3910** (new national record), Ruddy Turnstone 23, Black Turnstone 83, Common Snipe 31, Long-billed Curlew 180, Whimbrel 9, Spotted Sandpiper 17, Wandering Tattler 2 (1 by Binford party—3 years in a row; 1 by Dean party), Willet 1757, Greater Yellowlegs 19, **Lesser Yellowlegs 1** (Bailey party), Red Knot 350 (Rosegay party), Least Sandpiper 1761, Dunlin 5941, Short-billed Dowitcher 779, Long-billed Dowitcher 819, dowitcher (sp.) 332, Western Sandpiper 6809, Marbled Godwit 1842, Sanderling 953, sandpiper (sp.) 677, American Avocet 1003, Black-necked Stilt **22** (12 by Bailey party, 10 by Roberson party), Glaucous-winged Gull 2449, Western Gull 2402, Herring Gull 28, Thayer's Gull 15, California Gull 1405, Ring-billed Gull 976, Mew Gull 219, Bonaparte's Gull 287, gull (sp.) 1201, Forster's Tern 155, Band-tailed Pigeon 1274, Rock Dove 1036, Mourning Dove 2695, Barn Owl 7, Screech Owl 3 (2 by McCaffery party, 1 by Boyajian party), Great Horned Owl 146 (new national record), Pygmy Owl 2 (McCaffery party), Burrowing Owl 19, **Long-eared Owl 1** (Binford party), Saw-whet Owl 11, White-throated Swift 74, Anna's Hummingbird 857, Belted Kingfisher 10, Common Flicker (Red-sh.) 773, Common Flicker (Yellow-sh.) 1 (Craig Hohenbeger & Dave Rudholm in s. Orinda), Acorn Woodpecker 26, Yellow-bellied Sapsucker 42, Hairy Woodpecker 13, Downy Woodpecker 85, Nuttall's Woodpecker 72, Black Phoebe 65, Say's Phoebe 16, Horned Lark 170, Steller's Jay 1518, Scrub Jay 2349 (new national record), Common Crow 232, Chestnut-backed Chickadee 1497 (new national record), Plain Titmouse 545 (new national record), Bushtit 3534 (new national record), White-

breasted Nuthatch 29, Red-breasted Nuthatch 133, Brown Creeper 35, Wrentit 1020, **House Wren 1** (Garrett party), Winter Wren 145, Bewick's Wren 395 (new national record), Long-billed Marsh Wren 9, Rock Wren 12 (11 by Bill Hurd party in Chabot Park; 1 by Doug Greenberg in the Round Top-Quarries area), Northern Mockingbird 126, California Thrasher 172, American Robin 16,233, Varied Thrush 594, Hermit Thrush 288, Western Bluebird 163, **Blue-gray Gnatcatcher 5** (2 by Tom Southworth party in Knowland Park; 1 by Florence Fisher & Vi Homem in Montclair, 1 by Garrett party, 1 by McCaffery party), Golden-crowned Kinglet 115, Ruby-crowned Kinglet **1000**, Water Pipit 436, Cedar Waxwing 3215, Loggerhead Shrike 37, Common Starling 22,068, Hutton's Vireo 72, **Black-and-white Warbler 1** (spotted by Lorenzo Cuesta in Blair Csuти party at Meadow Canyon), Orange-crowned Warbler 6, Yellow-rumped Warbler (Myrtle) 298, Yellow-rumped Warbler (Audubon's) 774, Yellow-rumped Warbler (ssp.) 85, **Black-throated Gray Warbler 1** (Sylvia Sears, Leslie Henningsen, & Sandra Leich in the Leona Heights area), Townsend's Warbler 51, Common Yellow-throat 14, House Sparrow 2037, Western Meadowlark 924, Red-winged Blackbird 1521, Tricolored Blackbird 50 (Roberson party at the Davis St. dump), **Northern (Bullock's) Oriole 1** (found by Russ Greenberg in the Rosegay party), Brewer's Blackbird 3680, Brown-headed Cowbird 4 (3 by Roberson party; 1 by Dean party), Purple Finch 163, **Cassin's Finch 2** (McCaffery party), House Finch 5875, Pine Siskin 1186, American Goldfinch 910, Lesser Goldfinch 1189, **Red Crossbill 35** (Bob & Carol Yutzy in n. Redwood Park), Rufous-sided Towhee 1043 (new national record), Brown Towhee 2110 (new national record), Savannah Sparrow 295, Lark Sparrow 12, Rufous-crowned Sparrow 8, Dark-eyed (Slate-colored) Junco 6, Dark-eyed (Oregon) Junco 3356, White-crowned Sparrow 2242, Golden-crowned Sparrow 2761, White-throated Sparrow 9, Fox Sparrow 783 (incl. 1 **Eastern race** at John and Susanne Luther's feeder; new national record), Lincoln's Sparrow 13, **Swamp Sparrow 1** (Art Edwards & George Bing in the Dick Johnson party), Song Sparrow 990. Total: 178 species; nearly 203,000 individuals.

FIELD TRIPS FOR FEBRUARY AND MARCH

February 1 & 2, Saturday & Sunday

Los Banos. See January *Gull* for details. Leaders: Marie Mans, Lafayette (284-7681) and Barry Spitz, San Francisco (441-4565).

February 9, Sunday

Caroline Livermore Audubon Cypress Grove, Marin County; by bus* only, no car parking available. First loading in Oakland at 7:10 a.m., second loading in San Francisco at 7:40 a.m. Make bus reservations with Pat Triggs. Send \$5.00 and your telephone number. Bring lunch and scopes. Leader: Pam Kruskal.

February 12, Wednesday

Lake Merced, San Francisco. Meet at 9:00 a.m. at North Lake, at the foot of Sunset Blvd. Accessible by 72 busline. Lunch optional. Leader: Aileen Pierson (587-4163).

February 14, 15 & 16, Friday, Saturday & Sunday

Bus trip to Morro Bay. Make overnight reservations for Friday and Saturday at Sunset Motel, 1080 Market Ave., Morro Bay 93442, phone 805-772-2111. Singles \$8.40, twins \$12.60. Make reservations for bus*

with Pat Triggs. Send \$10.00 and telephone number. First loading will be in San Francisco Friday at 6:00 p.m., second loading in Oakland at 6:30 p.m. Leader will be a member of Morro Bay Audubon. There is a good campground for drivers. Meeting time each day will be 8:00 a.m. at the motel.

February 19, Wednesday

A mini-walk for seniors around Jewel Lake, Tilden Regional Park. Meet at 9:00 a.m. at the Little Farm. Lunch optional. Leaders: Harriet Frazer (661-4787) and Eleanor Peterson.

February 22, Saturday

Grizzly and Joice Islands, Solano County. Drive to Fairfield via Interstate 80, take West Texas St. to Fairfield City Park. Meet in the parking lot at 9:00 a.m. We should see ducks, shorebirds, bitterns, and owls. Leader: Warren Larson (525-9149).

March 1, Saturday

Come to historic Point Molate at the east end of the Richmond-San Rafael Bridge. East Bay drivers approach via Highway 17 and take the Pt. Molate turnoff, the last exit before crossing the bridge. Drivers coming from Marin County take the Marine St. exit, the first one after crossing the bridge. Curve around to the right, under Hwy. 17, and back onto the bridge approach heading west. Take the Pt. Molate exit, as above. Follow the paved road; when it divides take the middle fork and continue to the beach parking lot at the gate (2 miles). Meet at 10:00 a.m. A combination of beautiful views, historic structures and uniquely accessible wildlife will make this close-in trip of interest to all. Leaders: Tom Williams (548-0939) and Fred Tarp.

March 7, 8 & 9, Friday, Saturday & Sunday

Bus trip to Honey Lake, Lassen County, to see Sage Grouse. First loading will be in San Francisco at 1:00 p.m. Friday. Second loading in Oakland at 1:30 p.m. We will travel via Reno and U.S. 395 to Susanville. Dinner will probably be in Reno. Make bus reservations* with Pat Triggs. Send \$15.00 and your telephone number. Make motel reservations for March 7 and 8 at the Sierra Vista Motel, 1067 Main St., Susanville 96130, phone 916-257-2164. Singles \$8.40, twins \$12.60. Bring breakfast and lunch foods. Starting point each day will be the motel at 6:00 a.m. For those who drive, try the 7 Acre Motel in Litchfield, phone 916-257-6711. There is also primitive camping at the Honey Lake refuge. Meet each morning at the Headquarters at 6:30 a.m. To get to the Headquarters,

drive about 3 miles beyond Litchfield; at Mape's Ranch watch for an inconspicuous sign, State Game Refuge. Turn right, drive approximately 2 miles and take the first left turn (no sign). Organizer: Pat Triggs. Leaders: Ted Chandik (493-5330) and Bob Yutzy.

No-leader trips: February 6, Tilden Park; meet at Little Farm at 9:00 a.m. February 26, Golden Gate Park; meet at Chain of Lakes, 43rd and Fulton, at 9:00 a.m. Choose your own leader. Lunch optional.

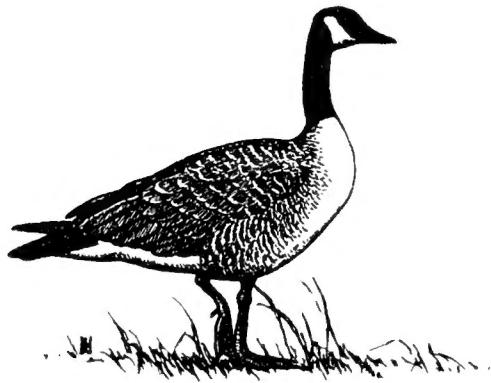
Tentative plans are being made for a bus trip south to see condors on August 15, 16 and 17. Campers will pay about \$5.00 and motel people \$33.92 (singles) and \$38.16 (twins) for two nights. Bus fare will be \$15.00. This makes rather an expensive weekend, but if enough people are interested we will go. Notify Pat Triggs.

***Note:** make all bus reservations with Pat Triggs, 2038 33rd Ave., San Francisco 94116, phone 664-8502. Meeting place in San Francisco for all trips is Grove and Larkin, in front of the Civic Auditorium. In Oakland, for the Cypress Grove trip meet at Bellevue and Perkins at the north end of Lake Merritt. For overnight trips meet at 12th and Jackson in front of the Alco Park Garage. Weekend parking at Alco is approximately \$6.00; be prepared with 2 quarters to get through the gate. San Franciscans may park overnight at the Civic Center Garage, entrance on McAllister between Polk and Larkin.

DECEMBER OBSERVATIONS

The **Yellow-billed Loon** found last month in Tomales Bay continued to be seen until Dec. 17 (mob). A count of 15 **Red-necked Grebes** in Monterey Bay on Nov. 30 indicates just how common this species is along the outer coast (LCB, JM, VR). **Cattle Egrets** were reported widely: 2 at Palo Alto Nov. 30-Dec. 30 (BMcC), 1 at Bolinas Lagoon Dec. 1 (BM), 7 near Grizzly Island Dec. 7-9 (BG), and 4 at the East Ridge Shopping Center in San Jose Dec. 22 (PS). **Whistling Swans** are rare along the coast, however 15 were over the Marin headlands Dec. 24 (DM) and 4 were at Limantour Estero Jan. 1 (TK). Two **Blue-winged Teal** at Martinez Dec. 21-23 were at an unusual location (BJ, LJ, GB). **European Wigeon** were unusually widespread: singles at Lake Merced Nov. 23-Jan. 1 (DD, MG), at Solano Lake Dec. 5 (GZ, JM, RD), at the Oakland Airport Dec. 15 (SFB, KB), and at Pt. Molate, Richmond, Dec. 24 (GB). It is interesting to note that numbers appeared lower in the Central Valley; perhaps the dry winter caused wider dispersion. **Barrow's Goldeneye** was also widespread away from Lake Merritt: 1 at Solano Lake Dec. 5 (JM), up to 2 on Bolinas Lagoon Dec. 7-Jan. 1 (HB, JM, NS, DA), 1 at Crystal Springs Res. Dec. 21 (BS), and 1 in Princeton Harbor Dec. 22 (RS). 2 **Black Scoters**, rare inside San Francisco Bay, were seen from the Bay

Covel's Conservation Corner



state Department of Water Resources on the proposed Delta Peripheral Canal.

Expecting an impartial environmental impact report (EIR) from a government agency under political pressure or from a developer with a fortune at stake may be like asking a hungry wolf to watch the sheep. That may explain why the Bay Conservation and Development Commission (BCDC) has approved a nine-page list of questions challenging the accuracy of the EIR prepared by the

With the passage of the Nejedly-Bagley-Z'berg Suisun Marsh Preservation Act in 1974 it was recognized that adequate fresh water inflow was essential to the protection of what has been called "the greatest wildlife marsh along the Pacific Coast." An intensive study of the marsh by leading biologists, engineers, and land-use planners is being financed by the state. We suspect the findings may further emphasize the catastrophic effect a Peripheral Canal might exert on the Suisun Marsh. Environment writer Fred Garretson of the *Oakland Tribune* called all this to public attention in his column early last December. May the press and other media of the Bay counties spare no space or air time to keep this important major issue before the public!

We might achieve a cleaner 1975 if the California legislature will face up to its mandate in the litter control field. Our neighbors in Oregon and Washington have enacted legislation which has reduced bottles and cans in roadside litter by as much as 90%. Oregon banned pop-top and throw-away containers, while Washington opted for a 0.015% tax on the gross sales of litter-creating industries: bottlers, newspapers, paper-makers, and supermarket chains. This tax raised \$650,000 last year to finance anti-litter education and control. Fines up to \$250 for littering and \$10 for operating a pleasure boat or a vehicle without a litter bag also helped.

Congress could pick up the ball by enacting beverage container legislation. The savings of precious aluminum, steel, and energy would be considerable and consumers might even get lower priced drinks. But then could a President who vetoed the strip-mining control bill be expected to sign a measure affecting the packaging boys?

And what of conservation and energy saving in our friendly sister republic of Mexico? While travelling to and from the rewarding December PBRO bird class in San Blas, I looked for the evidence. Ingenious anti-litter signs and trash boxes were conspicuous in Mazatlan. Far less plastic was noted in packaging food, clothing, and hardware than in the United States. Food wasted by the prosperous finds its way into the hands of the poor. But on the beaches of San Blas I was appalled by the waste of non-food fishes hauled ashore in the huge nets and the absence of enough fish-eating birds to clean up. Send more gulls south to Mexico?

Copies of the Draft Environmental Impact Report of the Airport Master Plan of Oakland have just reached us. The future of wildlife on airport property looks dim indeed. The dread bugaboo of a 64th Avenue extension across San Leandro Bay and Doolittle Pond remains on one map, though the Port of Oakland is not necessarily responsible for this. We will have more on the subject later.

—PAUL COVEL, *Conservation Chairman*

AUDUBON WILDLIFE FILMS

“Animaux Sauvages” will be shown on Tuesday, February 11 at 8:00 p.m. in the Oakland Auditorium Theatre. This superb film on African wildlife won an award for the best educational documentary at the Cannes Film Festival of 1971. It is the result of years of painstaking work by two Dutch photographer-naturalists, San Schippers and Henk Kegel. Underwater filming of hippos, elephant habits and migrations, the solitary lifestyle and ingenious hunting skills of a cheetah, and termites working at their mounds are among the incredible sequences.

—FRANCES ELLEN FALLGATTER, *Wildlife Chairman*

AN EXHIBIT OF BIRD PHOTOGRAPHS by two Bay Area Audubon members, Bill Parsons and Ian Tait, is currently on display at the Oakland Museum. Call 273-3401 for further information.

AUDUBON CANYON RANCH

ACR SPONSORS: The following friends either contributed or pledged an acre to Audubon Canyon Ranch this past month or brought the total of their contributions up to the requisite \$800 level:

Her family and friends in memory of Marianne Best Mason
Margaret E. Koehler in memory of George R. Koehler
Ann Rogers in memory of Clare V. Rogers
Ava Helen and Linus Pauling
Mrs. Anne C. Bunn
Mr. and Mrs. Donald L. Peterson

The ranch is deeply grateful to its Sponsors, new and old, who have contributed so significantly to its success. We would also like to acknowledge the generosity of two foundations: the Marshall Steel, Sr. Foundation and the Winifred and Harry B. Allen Foundation, which again gave important support to the ranch as they regularly have in the past.

TREASURER'S REPORT: The good news is that the number of returns to the ranch's annual appeal for funds this year was gratifyingly high; more people actually contributed to ACR than ever before. There are of course more Audubon members. But I believe that our friends realized that the land acquisition program on the shore of Tomales Bay deserved their support. They realized the costs of running the ranch's programs and maintaining the thousands of acres it owns. The bad news is that the total of all those contributions is less than we received last year, for almost no one was able to give as generously as in the past.

Won't those Audubon members who made no contribution at all to the ranch send whatever they can afford to Audubon Canyon Ranch, P.O. Box 2113, San Francisco 94612?

NEWS FROM ACR: On February 1 Maurice "Skip" Schwartz, assisted by his wife, Karen, will become the overall manager of Audubon Canyon Ranch. Both Skip and Karen are graduates of the Volunteer Council training course, and they support the aims and philosophy of the ranch. ACR has needed a full-time employee who could watch over its properties which are spread from one end of Marin to the other along the coast. The land needs to be visited regularly, posted, kept free of debris, and sometimes fenced; signs need to be put up or repaired. In December

there were two emergency calls: "Kids are shooting ducks, coots, and grebes from the shoreline of Keyes Creek." "There are horses all over Griffith Marsh." These are the kinds of problems Skip will be dealing with. He and Karen will also be in charge of activities at the ranch proper: preparing for the influx of students and visitors which starts in March; staffing the overlook; supervising the volunteers at the entrance and at the bookstore; working with members of the Volunteer Council and the Forum; maintaining trails and buildings; taking care of all the jobs, big and little, expected and unexpected, which come with a place like Audubon Canyon Ranch.

GIFTS AND BEQUESTS

In memory of:

For Audubon Canyon Ranch

Gift of:

Loris Philbrick Smith Mrs. Elizabeth S. Lennon
Helen Dye Wheeler Margo Wallis Westgaard, Mrs. Elizabeth Disque,
Miss Barbara Disque, Mrs. Alan L. Newlove
Peggy McCormick Dorothy & Alan Pistorius

In memory of:

For GGAS

Mr. Herbert Coggins Mrs. Helen B. Thompson
Arthur H. Myer Mr. & Mrs. L. K. Land

General

GGAS Julia Adams
GGAS Frederick D. Euphral

IN MEMORIAM

It is with sadness that we note the passing, in December, of Arthur H. Myer, 50 year member since 1974, Second Vice President 1927, 1928; First Vice President, 1931; President 1944, 1945. Mr. Myer also gave valuable service to this Society as compiler for the S.F. Bird Count 1950-1958 and as Field Trip Chairman for many years.

The Society welcomes gifts in general or gifts in honor or in memory of relatives and friends. Such gifts will be used as specified by the donor, or if unspecified, at the discretion of the Board. This includes their use for general GGAS activities or for special programs of the Society including Audubon Canyon Ranch of which GGAS is a co-sponsor. Please send your gift in the form of a check made out to the Golden Gate Audubon Society, Inc. to Mrs. Robert C. Johnsen, Corresponding Secretary, 4 Del Valle, Orinda, CA 94563. The Society is also appreciative of any bequests. Such bequests should specify as recipient the Golden Gate Audubon Society, Inc. All gifts, donations, and bequests will be acknowledged in the *GULL* as well as personally on behalf of the Society by the Corresponding Secretary.



Golden Gate Audubon Society, Inc.
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Berkeley, California 94705
2718 Telegraph Avenue, #206
Recorded bird report: 843-2211

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Above are all members of the Board of Directors.

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Office Manager, Vera Paraschak (843-2222)

Mail for all individuals listed above should be sent to the GGAS office,
2718 Telegraph Ave., #206, Berkeley, CA 94705. It will be forwarded.

Send address changes to office promptly; Post Office does not forward the *GULL*. Monthly meetings: second Thursday, 7:30 p.m. Joint membership — local and national \$15 per year (individual); \$18 (family); includes *AUDUBON* Magazine and the *GULL*; to join, make checks (no cash) payable to National Audubon Society and send to GGAS office to avoid delay in receiving the *GULL*. Membership renewals should be sent directly to the National Audubon office. Subscriptions to the *GULL* separately \$3 per year; single issues 30¢. High school and college student membership \$7 per year.

The Golden Gate Audubon Society, Inc., was established January 25, 1917 and became a chapter of National Audubon Society in 1948.

The *Gull* deadline is the first of the month for the following month.